



General Rules & Instructions

Read all individual Department books, for department specific rules, dates and deadlines!

FAIR WEEK: JULY 16-20, 2025

JUNIOR REGISTRATION: APRIL 22 TO MAY 22, 2025

OPEN REGISTRATION: MAY 27 TO JUNE 27, 2025

Contact the Fair Office for questions: 608-325-9159 or greencountyfairgrounds@gmail.com

INTERPRETATIONS, AMENDMENTS & VIOLATIONS:

1. The Green County Fair is operated by the Green County Agricultural Society & Mechanics Institute's Board of Directors (a.k.a. Fair Board). The Fair Board reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations, and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard to or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incidental to the Fair. Noncompliance at any time with the rules set forth herein, or with proper etiquette required from an exhibitor and his/her family, may result in loss of premiums, ineligibility or disqualification of an exhibitor, and/or his/her exhibit, and may further result in the immediate expulsion of the exhibitor and his/her exhibit from the Fairgrounds. Any ruling on such ineligibility or disqualification, or the duration thereof, will be at the sole and absolute discretion of the Fair Board and is not reviewable, appealable or contestable.
2. The Fair Board reserves the right to amend or add to these rules at any time and from time to time as they, in their judgment, may deem advisable.
3. Participation in the Green County Fair events, pre-fair judging, meetings or related activities implies parental/exhibitor permission regarding the use and distribution of your image, including but not limited to your name, voice and likeness (image). By attending events you acknowledge and agree that photographs, videos and or audio recordings may be taken of exhibitor and the exhibitor grants the Green County Fair the right to use the images in electronic and or print distribution both now and in the future. Any parent or exhibitor not wanting to be photographed needs to submit a letter to the Green County Fair Office Manager by **June 1st** of the exhibit year.

EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY:

1. In the Junior Fair Departments, exhibitors must be members of a Green County Youth Organization approved by the Fair Board through an application process, due by January 1 of the exhibit year.
2. No exhibitor shall be allowed to exhibit the same animal or item in the open class division and junior class division.
3. No exhibitor shall exhibit an animal or item that has been exhibited previously in another State Aid Funded Fair within the last calendar year, resulting in a premium being awarded for that item or animal.
4. No exhibitor shall compete in the Junior Fair who has attained his/her 20th birthday before January 1st of the exhibit year or is not in third grade as of January 1st, except exhibitors in Department 17 Classes A-H who must be in grades 5K - 2. Grades are as of January 1st of the exhibit year.
5. Open class exhibitors have no age requirement but please read rule #2 & 3 above.
6. Exhibits in the Fair must be the results of the exhibitor's own labor. Any exhibit may be questioned and ruled out of competition (disqualified) by the superintendent if proof is not satisfactory.
7. Those participating in the Green County Fair may request reasonable accommodations for disabilities by contacting the Green County Fair Office at 608-325-9159 in advance of fair events. At least one month in advance is suggested, so the proper arrangements can be made.
8. Exhibitors who do not comply with General Fair Rules or Department Rules will forfeit the premium money and may be ineligible to exhibit in said Department **and/or** Fair next year.

FAIR ENTRIES:

9. The Fair will take reasonable precaution to protect the safety of the exhibits brought to the Fair, but owners themselves take the risk of exhibiting them, and should any exhibitor or exhibit thereof be injured, damaged, lost or stolen, Fair personnel (including Fair Board, staff, superintendents or agents will not be held liable or make any payment for the value thereof.
10. All animal projects (including small animals) must be in possession by May 15
11. All projects must be started after the 1st day of the previous Fair.
12. Exhibitors are only allowed to show one exhibit per lot. Some departments limit the number of entries per class or per department. Check department rules for further instructions.
13. Youth Organizations must provide a list of eligible exhibitors and adult leaders from their organization to the Fair Office by the **4th Thursday in April** of current year's Fair.
14. Exhibitors intending to participate in the Fur and Feather and/or Large Animal Auctions are responsible for reading and complying with the 4-H/FFA Livestock Auction Rules.. Follow the link for more details:
<https://green.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/livestock-auctions/>
15. All junior exhibitors with animals housed overnight at the fair (Dept. 1-5, 7-8) must be certified in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) in 2025 and will be prompted to submit their certification number through Fair Entry by May 22nd or your entries will not be allowed in those animal departments.
16. **ALL Junior fair entries MUST be completed ONLINE by May 22, 2025.** Late fair entries **will not** be accepted. **ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL May 22!** Class Substitutions/Alternates are NOT allowed after final entries are submitted. The online fair entry program will automatically send a confirmation email upon creation of the entry account, as well as the entry submission. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to review these confirmations prior to the deadline and keep the confirmations as proof of entry.
17. Junior exhibitor entry fee is \$6.00 per youth, and includes a wristband for the Fair.
18. Junior exhibitor fees will be billed to the club, chapter or troop they are participating in. Those invoices are to be paid by: **June 16, 2025**
19. **ALL junior exhibitors participating in Departments 1-5 & 7-8 will be automatically enrolled in Showmanship. If you choose to scratch showmanship, you MUST notify the Superintendents upon check in of your animals on Tuesday, July 15th.**
20. **ALL Open fair entries MUST be completed ONLINE by June 27, 2025.** Late fair entries **will not** be accepted. The online fair entry program will automatically send a confirmation email upon the creation and submission of the entries. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to review these confirmations prior to the deadline and keep the confirmations as proof of entry.
21. Open Exhibitor entry fee is \$22.00 per exhibitor and \$10 per stall fee for livestock departments. Entry fee includes a season pass for the Fair and **is due by June 30th.**
22. Enrolled, active Youth Organization Leaders may purchase a fair pass for the reduced price of \$22.00, and must be paid by **June 16 at 4:00 pm.**
23. Youth Organizational leaders/advisors will be responsible for turning in Junior Exhibitor entry fees with one (1) check written from the club/chapter/troop.
24. Checks for entry fees and leader passes are due to the Fair Office by **June 16th at 4:00 pm** and should be written payable to the Green County Fairgrounds.
25. Family Packets with Exhibitor Wristbands and entry tags must be picked up in person:
 - a. Exhibitors can pick up family packets early. Wednesday-Friday, July 9-11, 8:00am-4:00pm, Thursday, July 10, 8 am-5:30 pm, or during Non-Animal Check-in Saturday, July 12, 9:00am-2:00pm.
 - b. Exhibitors with only livestock can pick up their family packets in the Fair office on Monday & Tuesday, July 14 & 15 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.
 - c. Failure to pick up the packet will result in ineligibility to receive and use the enclosed entry tags and fair pass, and will require individuals to pay gate admission or purchase a season pass at any gate location.
26. If a wristband is lost or misplaced, fair admission will need to be purchased at the gate rate, **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
27. Championship Lots should not be listed on entry forms.
28. The number of entries cannot exceed the maximum limit for a department. Entries will be taken in order they are listed on the fair entry form. Any entries over the maximum will **NOT** be allowed to exhibit at the fair.

29. One Alternate entry is allowed Only in Dairy, Beef and Sheep Breeding Classes and Lots; along with One Alternate animal is allowed in the Horse Department.
30. No horned cattle allowed to exhibit at the Green County Fair.
31. Each Junior Exhibitor is allowed to make only one entry in each Lot, except in the Beef, Swine, Sheep & Goat Market lots.
32. All dairy, beef, horse, sheep, goat, poultry, and swine exhibitors are required to have a Wisconsin Premise ID Number, which MUST be included on their Green County Junior Fair Entry Form. These animal entries will NOT be entered or allowed to exhibit in the Junior Fair if the fair entry form does not include a valid Premise ID Number.
33. Any exhibitors bringing an animal from outside Wisconsin must contact the Green County Fair Office for any additional identification, tests or certifications may be required for exhibiting your animal in Wisconsin.
34. Ownership of dairy, beef, sheep, swine and horses by a junior exhibitor is established when an animal is recorded and certified on the registration certificate in the name of the junior exhibitor only, or with the junior exhibitor as a co-owner, with the junior exhibitor's full name appearing on the certificate of registration. Illustrations on co-ownership and registration are: *Assume John Jones to be the Junior exhibitor –*
 - (1) John Jones – John Jones is the owner
 - (2) John Jones and Jane Jones – John and Jane are siblings
 - (3) All other scenarios would be considered managerial projects
35. Deadline for families to submit Animal Counts to Superintendents is Monday, **June 20, 2025**. Deadline for Superintendents to Post Barn Assignments is **Saturday, July 12th, 2025 by Noon**.

FAIR WEEK POLICIES

36. The Fair Board reserves the right to change judging or show times if deemed necessary
37. **All exhibitors are expected to wear their wristbands until 6:00 pm Sunday, July 20, 2025.**
38. **A reminder to all exhibitors and parents or guardians. We rely on many volunteers to put on a fair that is both a safe and fun learning experience. During the fair, from check-in to exhibit release, there are times when difficult decisions will need to be made by the volunteers and Fair Board. Please respect these decisions and those making those decisions. Failure to do so may result in not being allowed to show at fair or other disciplinary actions the Fair Board deems necessary.**
39. **All exhibits are expected to be the work of the exhibitor. Exhibitors are required to fit their own animals for the Junior Livestock shows, once they are on the fairgrounds. They may be assisted by immediate family members (parents, step-parent, legal guardians, brother, sister, or another exhibitor). Failure to abide by this rule will make the animal ineligible for the Junior Show.**
40. **To maintain a high degree of confidence and integrity of the livestock shows, Green County Fair Board & Management reserve the right to disqualify any animal fitted in an unethical manner. Unethical fitting shall include any injections of gas, solid or liquid to alter the normal conformation or degree of firmness. It shall also include attempts to change the appearance of the animal by adding artificial tail heads, switches, polls, hair and heels.**
41. All exhibition hall exhibits, unless otherwise stated, must be brought and checked in during their designated time of check-in/judging listed on the top of each department fair book document. Exhibition hall exhibits checked in to the fair after check-in/judging time will be disqualified. However, they can be left for display only.
42. There is no discussion during the judging of the projects and animals from the audience to the judge.
43. Animal & Livestock Check-in: Must be first seen by a fair Veterinarian and Superintendent before placement into barns. Registration papers and any health papers are required to be presented at this time. Dairy Cattle must be brought in and checked in from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Tuesday. Beef cattle must be brought and checked in from Noon - 3 p.m. on Tuesday. Sheep and Goats must be brought in and checked in from 9 a.m.- 11 a.m. on Tuesday. Poultry must be checked in from 9 a.m.- Noon on Tuesday. Rabbits must be brought in and checked in from 12:30 p.m.– 4 p.m. on Tuesday.
44. Pigs must be checked in by 8 p.m. on Monday.
45. All necessary health papers must accompany animal exhibits. They must be presented upon arrival to the department superintendent. Failure to present health records will result in immediate removal of the exhibit.
46. Registration papers must accompany all registered animals. They must be presented upon arrival to the department superintendent.

47. Herdsmanship will be judged on cleanliness of exhibit and educational message.
48. Animals incorrectly entered in the wrong class or lot will be moved to the correct class or lot, but will not receive a fair premium for the class, and will receive a ribbon only. Animals incorrectly entered will not be eligible for additional awards, including Reserve or Grand Champion.
49. All animals must be broke to lead. Animals deemed to be unsafe may be asked to leave the ring or even the fairgrounds and be disqualified to show. This is at the sole discretion of the Green County Fair Board and Superintendents. Exhibitors that lose control of their animal more than 2 times will be removed from the show.
50. Exhibitors found not properly caring (feed, water, clean pens/cages) for their animals during Fair Week will result in disciplinary actions which may include, but not limited to: forfeit the participation in the Livestock Auction, forfeit of premiums, exhibitor and animal sent home. This decision will be made at the discretion of the Fair Board, Superintendents & Auction Committee members.
51. Non-Animal exhibits entered in the incorrect lot, class, or department will be moved to the correct lot, class, or department, but will not be eligible for premium, blue ribbon or additional awards.
52. Non-Animal exhibits must have Entry Tags attached to their projects. If you fail to apply your own Entry Tag, department superintendents and volunteers may apply the tags at their discretion and the Fair and their superintendents and volunteers are not held liable for project damage.
53. Animal Exhibitors are required to wear their back tag numbers on their backs during judging. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
54. Lawn chairs are prohibited in Exhibition Hall during non-judging time.
55. The Green County Fair is not responsible for injuries to or from livestock.
56. Exhibitors will not be allowed to use power washers on the Fairgrounds.
57. Generators can be used; however they are prohibited inside barns/tents for safety reasons.
58. Couches, living room chairs, and rugs are prohibited from the tack areas for all livestock exhibitors.
59. **NO SMOKING** is allowed around the barns. Exhibitors will be sent home with no prize money for penalty.
60. No fair exhibits can be removed before 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Any exhibit removed prior to 6:00pm on Sunday, without approval, will result in that exhibitor being ineligible to exhibit in that department the following year. Early dismissal of animals due to welfare issues must pass through the proper channels of approval, starting with the Head Superintendent, then the Fair Veterinarian, and final approval by the Fair Board. Auction animals will be allowed to load out at the direction of the Auction Committee and their volunteers.
61. All barn decorations must also remain in place until 6:00 p.m., Sunday evening. The one exception is in the Swine department, where decorations can be taken down and pens cleaned after 3:00pm. No vehicles will be allowed near the barns until after 6:00pm.
62. No sawdust/shredded paper bedding is permitted to be used. Straw & Shavings are permitted. Maximum depth for bedding is 8". Any more than that will make the club, chapter or troop ineligible for herdsmanship awards.
63. Any exhibitor who puts hazardous waste, toxic substances, or recyclable materials in the manure pits will make the club, chapter or troop ineligible for herdsmanship awards. (i.e. medical containers and syringes, aluminum cans, plastic or glass bottles, twine strings and paper items.)
64. Fans cannot be placed behind animals along public walkways in the livestock barns.
65. Exhibits in Exhibition Hall must be removed between **6:00 and 7:00 pm on Sunday, July 20, 2025**. No one assumes responsibility for exhibits. Cars will be allowed at the back door of Exhibition Hall only for this purpose.
66. If a junior exhibitor is caught possessing any form of alcohol, they will lose the privilege of showing at the State Fair (if eligible) the same year and also the county fair the following year.
67. Any exhibitor involved in any activity that could negatively affect others will be warned. If the activity continues, disciplinary action decided upon by the Fair Board and Superintendents.
68. Any Exhibitor displaying behavior that results in them being asked to leave the fairgrounds by Police, Security personnel, Green County Fair Board members or UW-Extension Staff will immediately lose all fair privileges, including admission to the fairgrounds, premiums, and auction privileges for one year.
69. **Vehicles are not allowed to park around the dairy and livestock buildings between 8 am and 8 pm from Wednesday through Saturday and from 8 am to 6pm on Sunday of the fair. Exhibitors will be able to bring in feed and supplies between 8pm and 8am only.**
70. Pop-up tents are not allowed around the livestock barns during fair week.
71. **NO animals allowed south of the Blacktop road! (Grandstand side).**

72. No exhibitors or their family members will be allowed inside the livestock barns from 11 PM- 4 AM from Sunday, July 13, 2025 to Sunday, July 20, 2025.
73. Milking Passes will be available only to exhibitors with a Milking Animals for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday evenings. The pass allows the exhibitor to enter the barns anytime between 11 PM to 4 AM for one hour to milk their animal.

JUDGING PROCESS

74. All Junior Fair Lots will be judged with Danish judging, except where otherwise noted.
- (a) When there are less than 8 exhibitors in the Lot, there shall not be more than 2 in the first group, not more than 4 in the first two groups, and not more than 6 in the first three groups. If there are 8 or more entries, there shall not be more than 25% in the first group, not more than 50% in the first two groups and not more than 75% in the first three groups.
- (b) The number of awards in the last group may be increased to give awards to all exhibitors.
75. No firm or farm name identification shall be carried, worn or displayed on an exhibitor or animal while in the make-up area or the show ring. Failure to comply with this regulation will permit the superintendent(s) to bar the exhibitor from showing until the regulation is complied.
76. Exhibitors must pre-register for showmanship on fair entries to participate in showmanship classes.
77. All livestock must be shown in the ring by a Junior Exhibitor. It is expected that the youth entering the project will be the exhibitor. Exceptions must be approved **prior** to showing by the superintendent.
78. Entries cannot be shown in **both** Open Class and Junior Department. The exception is that junior dairy entries may be shown in the open class for produce of dam. The Grand and Reserve Champions of the junior show are invited to show for the Supreme Champion along with the Grand and Reserve Champions of the Open Show. Supreme Champion and Reserve Supreme Champion will each receive a trophy.
79. All protests regarding class entries must be in writing and signed by the person/persons making the protest and must be filed at least 1 hour before the show with the department superintendent where the protest is being made.

Conference Judging

Exhibits of the same lot will be judged together and compared to others in that same lot, using the Danish placing system (see rule #76).

In departments or classes marked "Conference Judging," the youth exhibiting the project is expected to be present during conference judging to talk with the judge. Should a schedule conflict occur, exhibitors are strongly encouraged to provide a note card with details about how and why the exhibit was made or selected, and what they have learned.

Face-to-Face Judging

Exhibits are judged immediately upon arrival, being judged on its own merits and the exhibitor's learning, in comparison to a standard of excellence.

Exhibitors are expected to be present during face-to-face judging to talk with the judge. Should a schedule conflict occur, exhibitors are strongly encouraged to provide a note card with details about how and show the exhibit was made or selected, and what they have learned.

GREEN COUNTY CODE OF SHOW-RING ETHICS

Green County Dairy and Livestock exhibitors will, at all times, conduct themselves with honor, honesty, and good sportsmanship. Those who violate the Code of Ethics will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds, and be prohibited from future exhibition.

1. When requested by show officials, be able to show proof of ownership, length of ownership, age of all animals entered, and provide animal health certificates from a licensed veterinarian.
2. Junior exhibitors will continue to care for their own animals for the duration of the fair.

3. Animals which will enter the food chain must be free of drug residues or foreign substances. For all animals, drugs may only be used in accordance with applicable federal, state, and provincial laws. Show management or regulatory officials may take any samples they wish for testing. Lab testing fees will be paid by the exhibitor, if the animal tests positive. Lab testing fees for animals testing negative would be paid by the individual(s) requesting the test. Any re-testing would be paid by the individual(s) requesting test(s).
4. To maintain a high degree of confidence and integrity in our livestock shows, Green County Fair Management reserves the right to disqualify any animal fitted in an unethical manner and disqualify the exhibitor. Unethical fitting shall include any injection of gas, solid, or liquid to alter the normal conformation. Treating the udder internally or externally with an irritant or other substance to artificially improve conformation is prohibited. In addition, it shall include any cutting or tearing of the hide, cutting or tearing underneath the hide or removal of tissue in an attempt to alter the shape or appearance. It shall also include attempts to disrupt or change normal dental development, adding artificial tail heads, switches, polls, hair and heels, as well as any attempt to change the conformation and degree of firmness by administration of fluids internally or externally in a liquid or solid state.
5. Showing or handling practices or devices to cause swelling are prohibited.
6. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, or other exhibitors is prohibited at all times. Problems will be resolved through appropriate channels.
7. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, and participants are absolutely responsible for an animal's condition whether or not they did something in violation themselves or knew of treatment that violates the code.
8. Exhibitors, upon entry, consent to disciplinary action for violating the Code of Show Ring Ethics, including publishing the infraction and violator's names.
9. Exhibitors verify that they have read and understand the Code of Ethics, as well as the consequences and penalties for violations. Exhibitors understand that evidence of violation of any law will be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

DRESS CODE FOR YOUTH EXHIBITING AT THE GREEN COUNTY FAIR

Accountability for personal appearance of exhibitors at the Green County Fair rests with the youth and their parents/guardians during judging in competitions, auctions and other youth organization related activities. The Green County Fair Board & Superintendents will address violations of these standards.

Dress or grooming that could cause a health problem, a physical danger, disruption, distraction to others or that sends a negative message will not be allowed.

Appropriate exhibitor dress for judging competitions, selling in auctions and other related activities will be as follows:

- No open toed shoes may be worn when exhibiting large animals (dairy, beef, sheep, goats, and swine).
- Any apparel that promotes alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or displays profanity and/or sexually explicit material is forbidden.
- Muscle shirts, tank tops, halter tops, mesh or see-through materials, shirts with a low cut front or back, shirts with the midriff showing, spaghetti straps and Daisy Duke Shorts are not allowed.
- The exhibitor's body must be covered from mid -thigh to above the armpit.
- *Mid-thigh: the point where fingertips touch the thigh when arms are relaxed and at the sides.
- *Armpit line: the line that connects the upper armpits across the chest and around the back

**Appropriate tops for judging and selling in auctions would include: 4-H Club or FFA Chapter Shirts, Polo Shirts, Un-Altered Tee shirts or Dress Shirts. Any apparel that has a Farm or Business name is not allowed in the show ring.

Exhibitors who wear inappropriate clothing will need to make arrangements to obtain appropriate clothing before participation in a judging competition or auction is allowed. Any youth who refuses to wear appropriate clothing will be ineligible to participate in the event. Green County Fair Board, Green County Fair Superintendents, UW-Extension Agents, 4-H Club Leaders, and FFA Advisors will address violations of these standards.